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Senate

The Senate met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RAPHAEL WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God our shield, look with love upon us today. Enable us to go from strength to strength as we strive to live in day-tight compartments. Guide our Senators around the obstacles that hinder them from living for Your glory. As they seek to fulfill Your purposes for their lives, empower them to stand for right and leave the consequences to You.

Lord, give them the grace to seek You with their whole hearts, knowing that those who passionately pursue You will find You. May they daily surrender themselves to You through prayer and obedience as they remember that victory comes from You.

We pray in Your loving Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The senior legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, August 3, 2021.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNOCK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, Senators continue to work through the bipartisan infrastructure bill here on the floor. Members from both sides want to be able to consider as many germane amendments as possible, but we want to work efficiently to allow those votes.

Yesterday was a positive day in that respect. Democrats and Republicans agreed to vote on three amendments, two of which were led by Republicans. Two bipartisan amendments—one led by Senators THUNE and TILLIS, another led by Senators PADILLA and MORAN—were adopted with over 90 votes.

We have one—potentially two—more amendment votes lined up this morning. We can hold even more amendment votes today if our Republican colleagues grant us the consent to do so.

The bottom line is this: The Senate can work through amendments rather efficiently when we have cooperation between the majority and the minority, as we have had in this bipartisan legislation. It can go rather slowly, of course, without that cooperation. In either case, the Senate is going to stay here until we finish our work.

I will conclude my remarks now in order to give time to the other Members waiting to speak, but I will come back to the floor shortly afterwards to join the chair and ranking member of the Rules Committee asking the Senate to award the Congressional Gold Medal to members of the Capitol Police force who defended us from a violent mob on January 6.

I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

INVESTING IN A NEW VISION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SURFACE TRANSPORTATION IN AMERICA ACT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of H.R. 3684, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3684) to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

Pending:

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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